

the

# KALIFORNSKI

Since 1979

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## NEWSLETTER OF THE YUGOSLAV-AMERICAN CULTURAL ORGANIZATION, INC.

P.O. Box 226, Watsonville, California 95077

(A NON-PROFIT, NON-RELIGIOUS, & NON-POLITICAL ORGANIZATION)

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It was certainly rewarding for Jerry Gospodnetich and myself to see so many satisfied members at the stew dinner. I think we came close to pleasing everybody. I knew when some people came back for seconds and thirds, that we had a good stew. Well, so much for back slapping; we have to give other members credit for their help in making the dinner a success.

Babe made paper chains out of different colored paper and printed each member's name on them (these members linked to hold YACO together). Jo Puhera and Ann Cernokus used them in with the flower decorations on the tables.

Had our regular kitchen help: Cecil Hamblin, George Jurickovich, and Lena Derpich. John Colendich did his usual superb job with the bar, and his mom, Emme, took charge of the raffle and M.C. Babe did the door prize.

Our two dessert chairwomen, Ella and Mary, did another great job, and I thank everyone of you who donated cakes and goodies for the dinner. Alex Solano was a great help as usual. I want to thank John Biskup and Steve Zelac for sitting in with Martin Santich and making great music even greater.

I hope I haven't forgotten anybody.  
See you at the May 3rd meeting.

RON

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M/M Jerry Gospodnetich	Michell Marinovich	Michael G. Ruso	Marjorie Secondo
Bill Alaga	M/M Andrew Mekis	M/M Antone Basic	Isbelle Secondo
M/M John Osorio	Lucille Coxon	Madeline Fiorilla	M/M Andrew Gulerovich
M/M Jerry Goss	M/M Eli Pokriots	M/M Peter Sulaver	M/M George Jurickovich
Mae Stolich	Steve Mosunic	Elizabeth Valentine	Walter Zurovski
Peter Salatich	Lawrence Blazina, M.D.	Lena Strazicich	M/M Antone Bulich
M/M Herb Stocking	M/M Luke Vidak	Jo Puhera	M/M Leroy Rasmussen
Florence Diccico	Anne Market	Madalin Levie	Ann Backovich
M/M Vincent Raia	M/M Edward Jurach	M.V. Porovich	M/M Steve Zalac
Mary Jennings	M/M Ted Bohn	Ann Bakich	Edith Knowles
Jerry Simich	Steve Paulovich	M/M Bruce Richardson	M/M Petar Bartolovich
M/M Burton Reese	Martin Grizich	M/M John Franusich	Nick Miloslavich
Anna Jurach	Mary McKnight	M/M Andrew Soldo	Naida Nicholas / R. Polovina
M/M Paul Arnerich	M/M Martin Salatich	Dale & Janet Skillicorn	M/M Nick Korach
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John Basor	M/M Milun Djurovich	Frances Ann Russell	M/M Bob Hoffman
Ann Vidis	Mary Kulich	Pauline Glumoz	M/M Anthony Neal
Katherine Peterson	M/M Steve Belick	M/M Anthony Marelich	M/M David Lawrence
M/M Robert Salinovich	Merilyn Georgevich	M/M John Maleta	Katy Bjelokosich
Mary Lukrich	Mary Farris	M/M Victor Bogdan	M/M Tony Colendich
Cathrine Hickman	Mark Farris	M/M Nicholas Kovacevich	Lena Derpich
M/M Vido Deretich	Ann Scurich	M/M John Kusanovich, Jr.	M/M Ron Hill
M/M William Sanchez	M/M Bud Rowland	Mary Kusanovich Cross	M/M Wayne Clough
M/M David Stolich	M/M John Tartaro	M/M Louis Brautovich	M/M Barney Radovich
Simon L. Radov	Eva Vukich	M/M Vincent Gizdich, Jr.	M/M Tony Lipanovich
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M/M E.A. Bakich	M/M Mitchell Selak	Margarita Andrijic	Yaka Bacina
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Mira Udovch	M/M John Sien		



# Potpourri

presented as submitted by  
BABE BRAUTOVICH HILL

Well, is everyone sneezing, coughing, and have itchy eyes??? smell the acacia, and all the pollen blowing about, you know what that means? spring is here (can mattress be far behind?) and so is hay fever, oh well, onward and upward . . . donations made our last dinner, thanks to Martin and Rose Santich, at the Kupus dinner a generous donation was made by M/M Pokriots, everyone had the flu at that time, I sure hope all is well with the Pokriots . . . the stew dinner was out of this world, that was the first time I ever had stew in a soft loaf, and it was great, everyone seemed to like it, at least the comments were all favorable, that was some brain storm Ron, and I'm sure it was worth all the work you and your helpers put out . . . We had a door prize this time which is something new, and an out-of-town visitor won, John Selak donated a lovely clock he made and Catherine Lubadak was the first number called, from that point I won flowers, Lucille Bechis won a bottle of Champagne, Pat Gulermovich won a pillow, hand made and donated by Luce Selak, Jeanne Clark won a plant and the 50/50 raffle, Nick Derpich won champagne, and Lee Valentine won champagne, Congratulations to all . . . *The very first Yugo trip raffle ticket was bought by Ann Abate, thanks Ann, be sure and call me about the trip raffle right now you can pick your favorite or lucky number, don't forget only 200 being sold, so send me your money, and I'll send you a ticket . . .* I think I had better close for now . . . Familiar Faces:

E. Korach, M/M Hamblin, M/M Jurickovich, M/M Skillicorn, M. Gizdich, N. Nicholas, M. Biskup, M/M Zelac, M/M Soldo, N. Matulich, M/M Basich, M/M Cernokus, Z. Radich and family, M/M Burdick, Solano, Puhera, Colendich, Heebner, Mekis, Knowls, Gospodnetich, Miloslavich, Paljetac, Basor, Pista . . .

toodle . . . .ooo

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### FROM THE EDITORS

Bit by bit we're sorting through the material past readers have submitted and will be catching up so more articles can be included in future issues of the Kalifornski. Even with the extra pages we've added this time, there just isn't room to catch it all up in one issue. So next issue you can count on reading an article about Susak — the Sandy Island, by Irene Strazicich, and hopefully a report on the "Vuk Stefanovic - Karadzic" symposium being held this month at the University of Illinois at Chicago. (If you are interested in more details about this May 19 - 22 International symposium, call Naida Nicholas at 724-9211.)

And before we sign off, we'd like to send our Best Wishes to Andy and Pat Gulermovich as they start their new business, PAYLESS FOR CARPETS #3 at 1040 East Lake (East Lake Village). Stop in and say "Hi!"

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## VESELI SELJACI NEWS

by NANCY BJELETICH

The Veseli Seljaci annual concert on April 4 was a great success! The young children sang with spirit and diction that would put us older folks to shame! Tatjana Milojkovic, their musical director, deserves the credit for teaching them the songs and language. One song, "Kauboj i Indijanac" was especially captivating, telling the story of a little boy who skipped school to go to the movies to watch cowboys and indians.

The little ones also proved that they are quick studies of the kolo, and under the direction of Caroline Bahr performed beautifully. Caroline also directs the intermediate dancers who performed a medley of dances from Prigorje and Sumadija. They were outstanding in their striking costumes of the regions, performing the intricate dance steps skillfully.

The advanced dancers were the show stoppers of the evening, performing the dramatic "Crna Gora Suite" in which the men form a tower by climbing on top of each other. Our advanced boys, all six of them, are over six feet tall, so the tower was impressive! Al Bahr taught them the dance — bouquets to you, Al!

Elizabeth Braymen was the instructor for the second dance they performed, the "Licki Tanac." The steps in the dance were very impressive — deliberately mechanical and rigid, completely opposite to the smooth steps of the kolo. Their costumes added color with the girls' patchwork vests.

Finally, the Veseli Seljaci played and sang, under the direction of Caroline Bahr. The group is living proof that years of dedicated direction and practice are what is necessary to grow. It has begun to mature musically, expanding in new directions that it is now capable of performing. A good example was its performance of "Zora Je," received by the audience with overwhelming applause.

The dance that followed the program was full of good fellowship and food. Perhaps the reason that these events are so successful is that they are a celebration of our heritage. They are living proof that we have not forgotten our past — and that we work very hard to maintain it. Ziveli!

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REMEMBER, FRANK YANKOVICH WILL BE PERFORMING AT NAPREDAK HALL ON JUNE 6  
(THE NIGHT BEFORE THE PICNIC)

# SECRETS OF THE ISLAND OF VIS

By Radovan Kovačević

"Hey, there's a galleon down there. And bronze cannon everywhere..."

Only deep-sea divers experience that eruption of joy when, searching the sea bed, they come upon something they never expected to find. Serdjo Gobo of Grožnjan, diving with member's of the Vis Underwater Exploration Club, was the first to inform the Institute for the Protection of Historical Monuments that he and his fellow divers had discovered a warship with 16 bronze cannon in the vicinity of Greben off the island of Vis. The vessel is believed to have sunk around the beginning of the 19th century. For the moment, there is no indication why it was lost, but there is hope that the reason for its sad end will soon be revealed.

Listing slightly, this unknown warship lies partly submerged in sand at a depth of about 50 metres. Strewn around it are four admiral's anchors and other objects. Most of the guns, with remains of their carriages, have retained the position they held when the ship foundered.

"Nothing has been touched," concluded the divers knowingly.

Clearly the first to find the galleon, they proposed that the site should be declared an archeological "park" for the training of underwater archeologists. In this way, club members could keep out unwanted visitors diving for amphoras and other bits of ancient pottery who would only wreak havoc with the site.

The find was also reported to the Naval Institute in Split. Its head, Frigate Captain Vlaso Isaić, believes that this man-of-war, with one row of cannon, could date from the late 18th or early 19th century, though further investigation would be required for complete identification.

It may have been a pirate ship. At the of the 18th century, according to the captain, Vis, together with other former Austrian possessions, was occupied by the French. During the second allied war against Napoleon, a Russian squadron, commanded by Admiral Sanyavin, entered the Adriatic in 1806, attacking Vis and capturing all the cannon it found there.

However, the Peace of Tilsit the following year put an end to further hostilities, and the Russians withdrew. At the same time, this treaty marked the beginning of increasing British influence in Yugoslav waters.

Vis, governed by French civilian authorities, became a lively centre for smuggling, which was encouraged by the British. This way, they hoped to sell large amounts of their goods in Napoleon's Europe, where legal trade was barred to them. In fact, several thousand merchants from Great Britain, Italy, Germany and other European countries descended on Vis. Their ships, laden with valuable but illicit cargoes, frequently fell into the hands of pirates.

"There is another possibility," continues Isaić. "The ship might have been sunk in the great sea battle between the French and the British on 13. March, 1813. Napoleon had ordered his fleet in Ancona to disembark troops on the island to prevent smuggling. Off Vis, four frigates, two corvettes and three smaller warships engaged a British squadron half its size but much better trained, which carried off the final victory..."

"The rough waters off Vis," says Isaić, "have been the graveyard of many a ship, from ancient times to the present day. The British scored another big naval victory at Vis, this time over an Italian fleet, in 1866. The Austrian vessel *Ferdinand Max* sank the Italian armoured battleship *Re d'Italia*, while a second Italian battleship, the *Palestro*, was blown out of the water... Much later, towards the end of 1940, in this vicinity a British submarine sent the Italian tug *Ursus* to the bottom. During the National Liberation War, many ships and Allied planes met their end here."

This most recent discovery by divers throws light on only one of the many secrets buried in the waters of the Adriatic. It is now up to the Naval Maritime Museum to try and unravel this one.

*The depths of the sea will always hold their secrets.*

*Photo: I. Pervan*







# POSJET »ZEMLJI JABUKA«

**Naših ljudi ima po čitavom svijetu, a zajednice iseljenika iz radnih krajeva Jugoslavije žive u regijama velikih kalifornijskih gradova. Tradicionalno se bave poljoprivredom i redovito školuju svoju djecu, jer cijene znanje iznad svega, pa se druga i treća generacija opredjeljuje za neku profesiju ili se bavi poduzetništvom i biznisom. Naša novinarka Mirjana Gračan posjetila je ovog ljeta jednu takvu zajednicu u Kaliforniji**

U dalekoj suncanoj Kaliforniji, najbogatijoj i najnaprednijoj saveznoj državi SAD, na obali Pacifika, u široj regiji San Francisca, postoji gradić Watsonville sa 28.000 stanovnika. To je prijestolnica »zemlje jabuka«, kako nazivaju dolinu Pajaro, gdje se uzgajaju jabuke, ali i drugo voće na najsuvremeniji način, sa zadnjim krikom tehnološke obrade i transporta za tržište.

Watsonville se sam po sebi ne izdvaja ni po čemu od ostalih gradica njegove veličine u ovoj bogatoj poljoprivrednoj regiji Kalifornije. Ono što je zanimljivo, to je da jednu osminu stanovnika čine potomci naših iseljenika, a gradonačelnik Watsonvillea je **Anne Soldo**, porijeklom iz Kona-vla kraj Dubrovnika. Ona je prva žena gradonačelnik u Watsonvillu, a treća jugoslavenskog porijekla uz dr. Petera Marinovića i Louisa Gluhana, dvojicu svojih prethodnika.

Gospoda Soldo radila je 25 godina kao učiteljica i direktorica škole, a nakon povlačenja u mirovinu 1978. već se 1979. kandidirala i bila izabrana prvo u Gradsko vijeće, a 1983. za gradonačelnicu Watsonvillea.

## ■ ZNOJ TEŽAKA

Primila nas je u svom uredu gradonačelnika na glavnoj uli-

ci, za pisacim stolom uz koji je zvjezdana američka zastava. Susret ljubazan ali i služben u prvi čas, već se za kratko vrijeme pretvara u razgovor dobrih poznanika i ljudi koji vole i svoju novu domovinu i stari kraj, odakle su došli Watsonvilljani. Prvi je u ove krajeve stigao davne 1970. Mark Rabasa i pokupovao sva stabla jabuke u dolini Pajaro. Malo-pomalo stvarao je plantaže i u suradnji s ostalim doseljenicima utemeljio ono što se danas naziva »zemlja jabuka«.

Jabuke su uzgajali i **Luke and Steve Scurich**, koji su ovdje gotovo zasnovali dinastiju Skurichevih kao najbrojnije i najprodornije obitelji. Tu su zatim **Marinovići, Lettunichi, Cikuthi, Borina, Straznicich, Franich, Resetar, Kalich, Matiasovich, Ivanovich i Derpich** — sve redom slavenska imena, uglavnom porijeklom iz Dalmacije. Otac bi poslao novac za kartu za sina, brat za brata ili sestru i ljudi su dolazili preko velike bare, a zatim preko golemog američkog kontinenta.

Dovoljno je samo jednom stići do Kalifornije da bi se zatim čovjek mogao diviti onim prvim doseljenicima, njihovoj vjeri u bolji život, hrabrosti da zakorače na novu zemlju, upornosti i izdržljivosti pred svim nedaćama. Jer život u Americi nije ono što mi u staroj Evropi obično zamišljamo. Iz ničega neće ništa proizići, pa je stoga logično da je ono

što danas uživaju potomci naših iseljenika rezultat nečijeg truda i znoja. U dolini Pajaro, što bi u prijevodu značilo Dolina ptica, nema stope zemlje koja nije natopljena znojem težaka iz starog kraja.

Anne Soldo i njena rodakinja **Marlene Radovich**, koja vodi pjevački zbor »Harmonija«, na čijem su repertoaru pjesme i napjevi svih jugoslavenskih naroda i narodnosti, govore »slavenski jezik«, kako u Watsonvillu najčešće nazivaju današnji hrvatski jezik. »Smiju nam se u Jugoslaviji kad govorimo naš hrvatski«, kaže Marlene, »jer to je arhaični oblik jezika, onakav kakav se govorio na početku stoljeća u staroj domovini.«

## ■ PAMTE SE LEGENDE I BAJKE

U Watsonvillu je prije nekoliko godina boravio i profesor Zagrebačkog sveučilišta dr. **Rudolf Filipović**, koji je nedavno proslavio 70. rođendan. I Anne i Marlene sjećaju se dobro njegovih istraživanja starih oblika jezika. »Ljudi su dolazili po određenoj satnici u našu kuću, gdje bi s njima razgovarao prof. Filipović i gdje bi snimao na magnetofonsku traku najzanimljivije razgovore za budućnost«, priča gđa Soldo. »Ljudi bi došli, a zatim nikako da odu, jer im se strašno dopalo da imaju s kime razgovarati. Pričali bi i pričali sve legende koje bi znali, sve narodne priče, o Kraljevicu Marku, o hajducima, o guslarima i morskim nemanima u starom kraju. Oh, koliko je to bilo zanimljivo i uzbudljivo.«

Naši doseljenici, kao pravi ljudi sa zemlje, znali su sebi odrediti vrijednosti. Kupovali su komadić po komadić plodnog tla, pretvarali ga u sve veći i sve bogatiji ranč, a zatim bi sljedeća generacija pošla u škole. Prvo zemlja, zatim školovanje sinova i kćeri. Zemlja i znanje, ujedinjeni, dali su rezultata. Mala slavenska zajednica je napredovala. Od samog početka osnivali su društva i organizacije za međusobnu podršku i pomoć i za kontakte sa starijim krajem.

Daleke 1857. osnovano je Austrijsko-američko dobrotvorno društvo u San Francis-cu, koje i danas djeluje a čiji su članovi bili i Watsonvilljani. slavenskog porijekla. Četrdeset godina kasnije, dakle 1897, osnovano je isto društvo u Watsonvillu, koje je danas poznato kao Slavensko-američko dobrotvorno društvo. Godine 1907. osnovano je Victory Lodge 152 Hrvatske bratske zajednice u Watson-

villu. Jugoslavenski radio-program koji vodi suprug **Anne Soldo Andrew Soldo**, djeluje kontinuirano od 1948. godine, a Adriatic Club od ranih 70 godina 20 stoljeća. Kao najmlađe — Jugoslavensko-američko kulturno udruženje — osnovano 1979, razvija suradnju na planu umjetnosti, kulture, povijesti i drugih društvenih znanosti. Watsonvilljani redovito posjećuju stari kraj i obnavljaju znanje jezika i starinske običaje.

## ■ »HARMONIJA« — UN U MALOM

Zanimljivo je da u tome sudjeluju i Amerikanci različitog porijekla. Tako u zboru »Harmonija« nastupaju zajedno Norvežani, Meksikanci, Iraci, Talijani, Portugalci... Marlene, kao dirigent i voditelj zbora, često kaže da se radi o malim Ujedinjenim narodima. I svi oni zajedno pjevaju jugoslavenske napjeve i sviraju narodne instrumente. Zajedno su snimili ploču »Harmonija« na kojoj je oko 30 narodnih pjesama iz Jugoslavije. Nekoliko ih je iz okolice Dubrovnika, a 19 ostalih s tog albuma su iz drugih krajeva. Odabrane su tako da ilustriraju sve utjecaje — austrijski, njemački, talijanski, grčki, turski i srednjoevropski. »Mi znamo da su naši narodi bili pod svim mogućim okupacijama«, kaže Marlene, »stoga je i muzika toliko različita.«

Provezli smo se Watsonvillom, pogledali kuće koje pripadaju jugoslavenskim iseljenicima, razgledali polja i plantaže voća i povrća, ušli u pogon za preradu i pakiranje bogatih plodova rada naših iseljenika. Iako daleko od starog kraja, iako zauzeti svakodnevnim poslovima i životnim borbama, naši iseljenici ne zaboravljaju stari kraj, bez obzira na to imaju li tamo još rodbine ili nemaju. Onaj slavenski duh zajedništva, osjećaj pripadnosti velikom slavenskom plemenu i maloj južnoslavenskoj zajednici tjera ih da njegovu tradiciju, glazbu i jezik. »Ovdje uvijek imate prijatelje«, ispratili su nas srdačno i toplo **Anne Soldo, Marlene Radovich** i njen suprug **Baldo Radovich**, koji radi za izvoznike jagoda i malina.

Grickajuci slasne jagode, koje ovdje uspijevaju osam mjeseci godišnje, napuštamo Watsonville, prijestolnicu »zemlje jabuka i jagoda«, uvjereni da ovo nije posljednji susret s malom slavenskom zajednicom.

**Tekst**  
**M. GRAČAN**



# A VISIT TO "APPLE VALLEY"

*Many thanks to John Basor  
for sharing this with us.  
And to Margaret Pedulla and  
Zarko Radich for making sure  
we had an english translation  
so everyone could read this.*

Our people are spread all over the world, and communities of emigrants from various regions of Yugoslavia live in the metropolitan areas of some large cities in California. Their traditional occupation is agriculture. They take their children's education very seriously, valuing knowledge above all. Those of the second and third generation choose a profession, or go into contracting or other businesses. Our reporter, Mirjana Gracan, visited such a community in California this summer.

In far-off, sunny California, the richest and most progressive state of the USA, on the Pacific Coast, in the Greater San Francisco Bay Area, is the small town of Watsonville, population: 28,000. This is the capital of Apple Country, as people call the Pajaro Valley, where they use the most modern cultivation and shipping technology in the production of apples and other fruits.

Watsonville itself is not much different from any other small town in that rich agricultural area of California. What is interesting is that one-eighth of its population are descendants of people from our country, and the mayor of Watsonville is Anne Soldo, whose heritage is that of Konavli, near Dubrovnik. She is the first woman, and the third person of Yugoslav descent, to be mayor of Watsonville, the two previous ones having been Dr. Peter Marinovich and Louis Gluhan.

Mrs. Soldo worked for twenty-five years as a teacher and principal, retiring in 1978. In 1979 she successfully ran for city council member, and then, in 1983, for mayor.

## THE SWEAT OF LABORERS

She received us in the mayoral office on Main Street, at a desk with the starry American flag beside it. What began as a kind but official-sounding welcome soon became a chat between people familiar with each other and drawn together by their love of both the present and the former homelands of the residents of Watsonville. The first came to this area as early as 1870, and Mark Rabasa bought up all the apple trees in the Pajaro Valley. Little by little, he planted orchards, and, in cooperation with other immigrants, started what is now called Apple Country.

Luke and Steve Scurich also grew apples. They have now established the Scuriches as the most numerous and ambitious family in this area. There are also families named Marinovich, Lettunich, Cikuth, Borina, Strazicich, Franich, Resetar, Kalich, Matiasovich, Ivanovich, and Derpich, all Slavonian names, most of them from Dalmatia. A father would send the money for a ticket for his son, a brother for his brother or sister, and people came across the big pond, and then crossed the vast American continent.

Just arriving in California is enough to make one marvel at those first immigrants' faith in a better life, their courage in venturing into a new land, and their persistence and endurance in spite of all misfortunes. Life in America is not what we in the Old World usually think. Nothing comes from nothing; consequently, it is logical that what the descendants of immigrants from our country enjoy today is the result of their toil and sweat. In the Pajaro Valley, a name which is translation would mean Bird Valley, there is not a foot of ground which has not been watered with the sweat of laborers from the old country.

Anne Soldo and her relative, Marlene Radovich, who directs the chorus, Harmonija, in whose repertory are songs and selections of all the nationalities of Yugoslavia, speak Slavonian, as people in Watsonville usually call the language which is now Croation. "They laugh at us in Yugoslavia when we speak our Croation," says Marlene, "because it's an archaic form of the language, such as that spoken at the beginning of the century in the old country."

## LEGENDS AND FABLES REMEMBERED

Dr. Rudolf Filipovic, a professor at the University of Zagreb, also stayed in Watsonville some years ago. (He recently celebrated his seventieth birthday.) Both Anne and Marlene clearly remember his research on old linguistic forms. "People would come by appointment to our house, and Professor Filipovic would talk to them, and tape-record the most interesting conversations to preserve them for the future," says Mrs. Soldo. "People would come, and then just not want to leave, because they were so delighted to have someone to talk to. They talked on and on, telling all the legends they knew, all the folktales, about Prince Marko, the outlawed patriots of the Turkish period, fiddlers, and sea monsters in the old country. Oh, that was so interesting and exciting."

Our emigrants, like true country people, knew their values. Piece by piece, they bought fertile land, turning it into progressively larger and richer ranches, and then sent the next generation to school. First, land; then education for their sons and daughters. Land and learning, combined, got results. The small Slavonian community made progress. From the beginning, they founded societies and organizations for mutual support and help, and for contact with the old country.

As early as 1857, the Austrian-American Benevolent Society was founded in San Francisco, some of its members being Watsonville residents of Slavonian descent. It is still functioning today. Forty years later, in 1897, the society now known as the Slavonian-American Benevolent Society was founded in Watsonville. In 1907 Victory Lodge 152 of the Croation Fraternal Union was founded in Watsonville. The Yugoslav radio program directed by Anne Soldo's husband, Andrew Soldo, has been broadcast continuously since 1948. The Adriatic Club dates from the early nineteen-seventies. The newest, the Yugoslav American Cultural Organization, founded in 1979, develops a cooperative program of art, culture, history, and other social

*(continued on next page)*



studies. Watsonville residents regularly visit the old country and renew their knowledge of the language and the old-time customs.

### HARMONIJA, A UNITED NATIONS IN MINIATURE

It is interesting that Americans of varied ancestry take part in this group. Norwegians, Mexicans, Irishpeople, Italians, Portuguese . . . appear together in the chorus, Harmonija. Marlene, as conductor and director of the chorus, often says that it's a miniature United Nations. Together, they sing Yugoslav selections and play folk instruments. Together they recorded "Harmonija," a record with thirty folksongs from Yugoslavia, some from the area around Dubrovnik, and nineteen others from other regions. They were chosen to illustrate all the influences, Austrian, German, Italian, Greek, Turkish, and Central European. "We know that our people came under every possible foreign influence," says Marlene, "That's why the music is so varied."

We drove around Watsonville, looked at the houses owned by Yugoslav immigrants, viewed fields and orchards of fruit and vegetables, and went into the plants where the rich products of our emigrants' work are processed and packed. Although far away, although busy with their daily work and with life's struggles, our emigrants do not forget the old country, whether they still have relatives there or not. That Slavonian spirit of unity, the feeling of belonging to the great Slavonian tribe and to a

small Yugoslav community, urges them to promote their traditions, music, and language. Anne Soldo, Marlene Radovich, and her husband, Baldo Radovich, who works for a firm of strawberry and raspberry shippers, saw us off. They told us warmly and sincerely, "You always have friends here."

Having tried the delicious strawberries which thrive for eight months of the year here, we left Watsonville, the capital of Apple and Strawberry Country, convinced that this will not be our last meeting with the little Slavonian community.

*Translator: Margaret Pedulla*

*Translation Supervisor: Zarko Radich*



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## NOTICE!!!

All executive meetings will be held at the E.A. Hall School library (on Brewington) on every 2nd Wednesday from 7 - 9 p.m. until June 9th. Please come, one and all.

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## Yugoslav Radio Hour

REMEMBER to listen to the YUGOSLAV RADIO HOUR every Sunday at 9:35 a.m. on radio station KOMY, 1340 on the dial.

ANDY & ANN SOLDI are your hosts and bring you the finest in old favorites as well as the very latest music from Yugoslavia. They will be happy to play any special requests you might ask for whether it be for birthday, anniversary, or for any special announcement.



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# JOIN US TODAY

We earnestly invite you to join the YUGOSLAV-AMERICAN CULTURAL ORGANIZATION established in 1979.

We are a non-profit, non-political, and non-religiously oriented organization, and our main purpose for coming together was to simply bring the various members of the Slavic community at large together for their mutual cultural enjoyment.

We are very proud to have among our members, Yugoslav-Americans whose families came from the many different regions and republics of today's Yugoslavia. We also have many members who are non-slavic but enjoy, appreciate and support the slavic culture and its vast richness.

Our goals are as we mentioned before, ONLY to promote a cultural awareness and appreciation of our heritage as well as to bring Slavs and non-slavs together in a social and cultural atmosphere. Our programs include folk dances from all regions of Yugoslavia as well as slides and movie presentations, history lectures, folk singing (we have a singing group called "HARMONIJA" who perform not only for YACO functions, but celebrate marvelous performances for many other groups both locally and out of the city), language instruction, and other various cultural activities.

Won't you consider joining us for a good time as well as a very informative experience? All memberships include the receipt of this paper, THE KALIFORNSKI each month to keep you informed of YACO's activities and other informative news.

The nicest people belong to YACO and you'll be among them once you join.

Our dues are as follows:

Single membership .....\$12.00  
Family membership.....\$18.00

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Husband: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Interests: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Yugoslav Background: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Children under 18 included in Family Membership.*

# ATTENTION:

THE KALIFORNSKI is your publication. If there is anything in particular that you would like to see in any future issues, please don't hesitate to contact us. If you have any subjects relating to Yugoslav heritage or about Yugoslavs, here or abroad, that you would like to share or see published in this newsletter, please let us know. We would appreciate your input in publishing this newsletter each month. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact us:

Dale Skillicorn and  
Janet (Pelich) Justus-Skillicorn  
c/o Rapid Offset Printing  
22 East Lake Avenue  
Watsonville, CA 95076  
(408) 724-2900

## SUGGESTED TOPICS:

1. Trips by YACO members
2. Visitors from the Old Country
3. Newspaper or magazine articles about Yugoslavia or Yugoslavs, local or abroad
4. Weddings, anniversaries, graduations, birth announcements, or special celebrations by YACO members
5. Civic or cultural contributions by Yugoslavs
6. Yugoslav recipes
7. Yugoslav songs, poetry or stories
8. Special family traditions for holidays, etc.
9. Yugoslav stories for children
10. Anything you think might be of interest to YACO members

## NEW DEADLINE

A new DEADLINE has been set for the 10th of each month so that we might get the paper out even earlier. It seems that our members out of Watsonville are not receiving their KALIFORNSKI early enough to plan on attending any of our programs. Members in Watsonville receive their copies at least two days after mailing so it seems to be a problem with a hold up at the post office. If I don't have the information in time, I will not be able to publish it until the next issue. REMEMBER to send me any information by the 10th of each month.



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## No Paper?

If someone you know is not receiving the KALIFORNSKI, please let us know. We publish this for you, the membership, and would like each of you to have the opportunity to keep in touch with YACO. Contact us at Rapid Offset Printing, 22 East Lake Avenue, Watsonville, CA 95076 - (408) 724-2900.

Dale Skillicorn and Janet (Pelich) Justus-Skillicorn

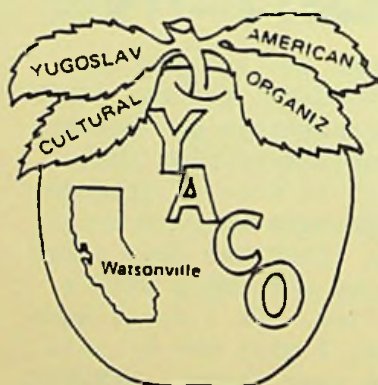
# CALENDAR

- May 3 Meeting (7pm) Refreshments, Program, Scholarship Comm. V.F.W. Hall.
- June 7 Meeting (6pm) Potluck. Parade Entry for 4th of July?
- July 5 Annual B-B-Q - Top Sirloin, Beans, Salad, Desserts, Music. \$10 adults, \$5 children.
- Aug. 2 Meeting (6pm) Macaroni & B-B-Q, Chicken Dinner. Reservations only, 150 tickets. V.F.W. Hall. \$8 adults, \$4 children. Martin Santich.
- Sep. 6 Meeting (7pm) Entry for Apple Annual Parade, Food Booth Sept. 27th. Nomination Comm. V.F.W. Hall.
- Oct. 4 Yugo-Fest - time & place to be announced.
- Nov. 1 Meeting (7pm) Election of Officers. Refreshments, Program. V.F.W. Hall.
- Dec. 6 Christmas Dinner (6pm) Reservations only, 150 tickets. Roast Pork, Potatoes, Onions, and all the trimmings. \$10 adults, \$5 children. Martin Santich.



## YUGOSLAV-AMERICAN CULTURAL ORGANIZATION, INC.

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